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" (*d*) The loss of revenue to the Government by the abolition of this tax is roughly: (1) Rs. 80,000 per annum from dry lands; and (2) Rs. 6,500 per annum from wet lands."

Scheme to bring under cultivation the Koothali Estate.

* 883 *Q.*—SRI K. MOIDU: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether the Government have any scheme to bring under cultivation all the waste lands of Koothali Estate by introducing co-operative farming?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM:—" No."

SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR:—" On the socialistic pattern that is to be the basis of our country's administration, may I ask the Hon. Minister, why there should not be co-operative farming at least in Government-owned lands which they got free? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM:—" We do not have any such scheme on hand now. Certainly, when the time comes to dispose of the lands, all these things would be considered."

Cashewnut workers in South Kanara

* 732 *Q.*—SRI K. P. GOPALAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to the state—

(*a*) whether the Government received any memorandum on 19th May 1954 from the Secretary of the Cashewnut Workers' Union, Mangalore, South Kanara, requesting the Government to appoint a committee to go into the conditions of the cashewnut workers in the State with special regard to their wages, bonus, leave facilities, dearness allowance, etc.; and

(*b*) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" (*a*) Yes, Sir.

" (*b*) The Government have decided not to constitute a Tripartite Enquiry Committee for the Cashewnut Industry. But the Commissioner of Labour has been directed to conduct conciliation proceedings on the specific demands of the Cashewnut Workers' Union, Mangalore, and submit his recommendations to Government in due course."

SRI K. P. GOPALAN:—" The Minimum Wages Act gives power to the Government to constitute a committee to fix minimum wages for workers. Why should not the Government exercise that power and make an elaborate inquiry into the conditions of the poor labourers? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" If the hon. Gentleman refers to the cashewnut workers, I shall examine the suggestion that a committee might be constituted for fixing minimum wages for them."